Auto Theft Prevention Tips

In recent years, Halton Region and beyond have experienced a dramatic rise in auto theft occurrences. The increases coincide with an ongoing global vehicle shortage brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic, which made stealing them a lucrative revenue stream for organized crime.

Relay and reprogramming thefts of high-end vehicles with keyless entry and push-start technology are increasingly common. The majority of the vehicles are being stolen from residential driveways, usually in the overnight hours.

Auto Theft Prevention Tips

- Park your vehicle in a locked/secure garage
- Lock the onboard diagnostic port using a simple device that blocks access to the area where thieves reprogram the vehicle's key fob
- Use a steering wheel locking device
- Block the exit of a potential target vehicle with a second vehicle of lesser value parked behind it
- Lock unattended vehicles at all times
- Never leave spare keys in your vehicle

- Never leave spare keys outside your residence
- Install a kill switch
- Equip your vehicle with an alarm
- Consider purchasing a quality video surveillance system and ensure cameras are properly placed and functioning for 24-hour use
- Invest in an aftermarket global positioning system (GPS) tracker as it may assist in recovery of the vehicle if it is stolen

What can I do?

HELP US HELP YOU. We need you to be our eyes and ears. Please continue to report suspicious activity in a timely manner.

Call 911 immediately if you witness a crime in progress or a dangerous situation.

Call 905-825-4777 if you see suspicious vehicles or people (unfamiliar, unusual, loitering in your neighbourhood).

"See Something? Hear Something? Know Something? Contact Crime Stoppers" at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS) or through the web at www.haltoncrimestoppers.ca.

For the latest auto theft news and information, follow us @HaltonPolice on X (Twitter), Facebook, and/or Instagram.